

Steinbrenner Turns To Wooing Jackson

By MURRAY CHASS

Twenty-four hours after having lured Dave Winfield to the Yankees with the richest contract in baseball history, George Steinbrenner began yesterday an effort to keep Reggie Jackson with the team after next season. And today Steinbrenner, the team's principal owner, will try to decide if he wants to keep Ron Guidry as well.

Steinbrenner met with Jackson yesterday here, and is scheduled to meet today with John Schneider, Guidry's lawyer, in Tampa, Fla. On the basis of the Tampa meeting, he may decide whether or not to trade the left-hander for Fred Lynn, Boston's center fielder.

Schneider indicated that he would propose a five-year contract extension for Guidry worth close to \$1 million a year.

Wants to Stay 'Forever'

In opening negotiations with Jackson, Steinbrenner learned that the right fielder wanted a five-year contract extension past the 1981 season, which is the final year of the five-year contract he signed in November 1976 as baseball's most expensive free agent at that time.

"We had a nice talk," Jackson said

after the meeting at the Carlyle Hotel. "We discussed the parameters and length of a contract, some idea of how to pay it, some of the little extras I would like. He asked how much longer I want to play, how long I want to be with the Yankees. I told him forever, as long as I could play."

Jackson, 34 years old, said he had asked a five-year extension. "If I can't get it," he added, "we would have to go with what's amiable for both sides. He wants to think about it. He's not that crazy about giving me that many years. But he'll talk and listen. He wants to keep me here if we can work something out. He wants to talk again after Christmas."

At the center of the negotiations will be the contract signed Monday by Winfield. According to the top executive of another club with information on terms of the deal, the contract calls for a \$1 million signing bonus and a first-year salary of \$1.4 million. If inflation continues at its present rate for 10 years, the length of the contract, the outfielder will earn \$22,312,390 in salary because the contract provides a cost-of-

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living increase with a maximum of 10 percent.

If he receives the 10 percent raise every year, these will be his annual salary figures for 1981-90:

1 — \$1,400,000	6 — \$2,254,714
2 — \$1,540,000	7 — \$2,480,185
3 — \$1,694,000	8 — \$2,728,203
4 — \$1,863,400	9 — \$3,001,023
5 — \$2,049,740	10 — \$3,301,125

'I've Done Some Things'

Counting the signing bonus, the maximum value of the guaranteed part of the deal (the executive said that incentive bonuses were included) would be \$23.3 million. That would average out to \$2.33 million a year, double the \$1.16 million Nolan Ryan was averaging for three years with the Houston Astros. Ryan's contract, which started last season, was baseball's previous highest.

"I don't think it's right for me to say because Dave Winfield got this much, I should get more," Jackson said. "That would put undue pressure on Dave. But I think it's right for the club to suggest certain things because I've been here and I've done some things. There might come a time when I would ask, but that's not now."

Jackson might well ask a lot of money for the seasons when he would be, say, 38 and 39, because in recent seasons other players, such as Pete Rose and Willie Stargell, have produced significant offensive totals at those ages.

Furthermore, Winfield, who is 29, will earn most of his salary in the five years that Jackson is now approaching — 34 through 39. With the maximum cost-of-living raises, Winfield would receive \$13,765,250 in his final five years.

Jackson declined to say whether he would discuss a cost-of-living deal with Steinbrenner.

Schneider did not know what Steinbrenner wanted to discuss with him in Tampa today.

"I don't know if it's a contract extension or to let me know the trade is pending," he said from his Louisiana office.

If it is an extension of the contract that expires after next season, Schneider will tell Steinbrenner that Guidry wants five years at what he understands the Yankees offered Don Sutton — about \$900,000 a year.

Steinbrenner has said that he offered Sutton less than he eventually received from the Houston Astros. However, Sutton, a free-agent pitcher, signed with the Astros for a guaranteed \$2.85 million, and a source familiar with the Yankee offer to Sutton said it had guaranteed \$2,910,000.

The Yankee offer, the source said, called for a \$500,000 signing bonus, a salary of \$670,000 a year for three years and \$400,000 each for the fourth and fifth years, half of which would be guaranteed. There also was a \$500,000 loan.

"I'm going out there to listen," Schneider said.

If Steinbrenner decided it would take too much money to sign Guidry, he could pursue a trade for Lynn more vigorously. He had expected to meet with Haywood Sullivan, Boston's general manager, yesterday, but Sullivan was unable to come to New York for Elston Howard's funeral, which he had planned to attend.

Guidry has heard about the possibility of a trade and is apprehensive, Schneider said.

"He doesn't want to leave the Yankees," the lawyer said. "He never has had any interest in leaving them. What's amazing him is the thought of playing for the Red Sox. It's like a kid in high school or college suddenly going to a rival high school or college. He has spent 10 years in the Yankee organization gearing himself to beating the Red Sox. You get psyched to that and suddenly you're traded to the Red Sox. It's going to be a tremendous mental adjustment. I could tell he's just sitting back — I don't want to say stunned or shocked — but just wondering what's going to happen."